In Karnataka, the Ministry has approved 3 Food Parks for providing financial assistance-one each at Malur, District Kolar, Bangalkot District Bangalkot and Jewargi, District Gulbarga. The Food Parks in Karnataka were orginally sanctioned to Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board (KIADB). Subsequently, a new entity Food Karnataka Ltd. was formed by the Government of Karnataka who have initiated implementation of the Food Parks in joint Venture with Private Partners.

The Government has constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) for an integrated strategy for promotion of agribusiness-Vision, Strategy and action Plan for the Food Processing Sector. The GoM is yet to give its recommendations.

At present, the Ministry does not operate any specific scheme for outsourcing of readymade food and products.

MNCs in Food Processing Activities

*115. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of MNCs engaged in food processing activities showing the nature of activity and the size of industry for each MNC;

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to protect small scale/cottage industries from the stiff competition offered by the MNCs and large scale domestic industries; and

(c) whether Government will consider reserving certain food processing sector to the small/cottage industries to protect them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) Several multinational companies are engated in the food processing activities. In accordance with guidelines issued by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, FDI is permitted up to 100% on the automatic route in food processing sector subject to sectoral rules/regulations. The growth rate of unregistered manufacturing sector of food processing sector has been quite robust as compared to the registered sector.

Assistance is provided under the plan schemes of this Ministry to the food processing industries in the following manner:—

(i) Under the Scheme for Technology upgradation/Establishment/ Modernization of Food Processing Industries, assistance is provided @25% of the total cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakh in general areas and 33.33% with a cap of Rs. 75 lakh in difficult areas.

(ii) Under the Scheme for Infrastructure Development, financial assistance is provided for setting up of Food Parks, irradiation facilities, packaging centres, value added centres and for modernizing abattoirs @25% of the project cost in General Areas and 33.33% in Difficult Areas subject to a maximum of Rs. 4 crore for Food Parks, Rs.. 5 crore for irradiation facilities, Rs. 4 crore for abattoirs, Rs. 2 crore for Packaging Centres and upto Rs. 75 lakh for value added centres.

(iii) Assistance as per the approved pattern of assistance is also provided for infrastructure development, human resource development, Quality Assurance and R&D and Strengthening of Institutions.

Nine products are reserved exclusively for manufacture in the small scale sector.

Proposal about Kendriya Vidyalayas in Uttaranchal

†*116. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Kendriya Vidyalayas in Uttaranchal regarding which proposals have been received by his Minsitry to conduct classes upto VIth and XIth standard in these schools;

(b) whether all such proposals have been sanctioned; and

(c) if not, by when sanction is likely to be accorded to it?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (c) Proposals were received for opening of Class VI at Kendriya Vidyalaya (KV) Kausani and Augustmuni, and XI (Science) at KV Pauri. Sanctions for opening of Class VI at Kausani and Augustmuni, have been accorded by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. For opening of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.